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**SEP 18 2007**

**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

Applicant: Kudo et al.  
Appl. No.: 10/530,096  
Filing Date: October 3, 2003  
Title: SEALING GASKET  
Attorney Docket No.:  
Pub. No.: US 2006/0155074 A1  
Pub. Date: July 13, 2006

This is a decision on the requests for a corrected patent application publication under 37 CFR 1.221(b), received on October 4, 2006 and on May 21, 2007, for the above-identified application

The requests are DISMISSED.

Applicant requests that the application be republished because the patent application publication contains a material error in that the name of one of the assignees is missing from the front page of the publication.

37 CFR 1.221 (b) is applicable "only when the Office makes a **material mistake** which is apparent from Office records.... Any request for a corrected publication or revised patent application publication other than provided as provided in paragraph (a) of this section must be filed **within two months** from the date of the patent application publication. **This period is not extendable.**" A material mistake must affect the public's ability to appreciate the technical disclosure of the patent application publication, to determine the scope of the patent application publication, or to determine the scope of the provisional rights that an applicant may seek to enforce upon issuance of a patent.<sup>1</sup>

The request for corrected publication, received on October 18, 2006, was not timely filed under 37 CFR 1.221(b).

The instant request does not identify a material mistake in the publication made by the Office under 37 CFR 1.221(b) with respect to the missing assignment information. The application was correctly published with the missing assignment information as the assignment information was

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<sup>1</sup>Changes to Implement Eighteen-Month Publication of Patent Applications, 65 FR 57023, 57038 (Sept. 20, 2000), 1239, Off. Gaz. Pat. Office Notices 63, 75 (Oct. 10, 2000) (final rule).

not provided with an application data sheet or transmittal letter on filing.<sup>2</sup> Applicants should not file requests for corrected publication that include errors in assignment information or missing assignment information. See MPEP § 1130. The missing assignee's name does not affect the public's ability to appreciate the technical disclosure of the patent application publication, to determine the scope of the patent application publication, or to determine the scope of the provisional rights that an applicant may seek to enforce upon issuance of a patent.

Applicant is reminded of his duty to conduct a reasonable inquiry before filing a paper before the Office. See MPEP 410.

Applicants' request for a corrected patent application publication on August 22, 2006, may constitute a "failure to engage in reasonable efforts to conclude processing or examination of the application." See 1.704(c). This determination will be made on or after a mailing of a Notice of Allowance

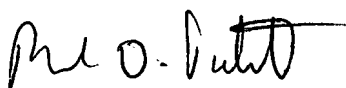
The applicant is advised that a "request for republication of an application previously published" may be filed under 37 CFR 1.221(a). Such a request for republication "must include a copy of the application compliance with the Office's electronic filing system requirements and be accompanied by the publication fee set forth in § 1.18(d) and the processing fee set forth in § 1.17(i)." If the request for republication does not comply with the electronic filing system requirements, the republication will not take place and the publication fee set forth in § 1.18(d) will be refunded. The processing fee will be retained.

Any request for republication under 37 CFR 1.221(a), must be submitted via the EFS system, as a "Pre-Grant Publication" and questions or request for reconsideration of the decision, should be addressed as follows:

By mail to: Mail Stop PGPUB  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Va. 22313-1450

By facsimile: 571-273-8300

Inquiries relating to this matter may be directed to Mark Polutta at (571) 272-7709.



Mark Polutta  
Senior Legal Advisor  
Office of Patent Legal Administration  
Office of the Deputy Commissioner  
for Patent Examination Policy

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<sup>2</sup> See 37 CFR 1.215 and Comment 59, Changes to Implement Eighteen-Month Publication of Patent Applications, 65 FR 57023, 57047 (Sept. 20, 2000), 1239 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office Notices 63, 84 (Oct. 10, 2000) (final rule).